



Docket No. COD0133

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Christopher McDowell
Serial No. : 09/960,020 Art Unit : 3728
Filed : September 21, 2001 Examiner : J. G. Pickett
Title : Tray for Surgical Fasteners

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Eugene L. Szczecina, Jr.
(Signature)

March 3, 2004
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Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of September 10, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendment to the Specification is on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

Serial No. 09/960,020

In the specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 27 as follows:

FIGS. 4 and 5 illustrate a rivet 66 for use with the instrument 10. The rivet 66 comprises a round head 68 from which extends axially 3 leaves 70. A cylindrical plug 72 extends axially from the head 68 in the opposite direction and is ~~frangible~~ frangibly connected to the head 68 through a frangible connection 74. The surfaces of the leaves 70 are curved so that the combination of the three leaves 70 provides an overall tubular configuration. Application of force in the axial direction applied to the plug 72 breaks its frangible connection 74 with the head 68 and allows it to drive axially into a position between the leaves 70 thus causing the leaves 70 to spread.